Opening of a Passport Office at Gangtok

1416. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Passport applications are lying pending at the Regional Passport Office, Calcutta since two to three years from the State of Sikkim;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open a Passport office at Gangtok, Sikkim as prior to 1975; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) No, Sir.

The number of applications received, passports issued and pendency since 1984 has been as under :

Year	Applications received from resident of Sikkim (including arrears from the previous year)	Passports issued	Applications pending at the end of year
1984	78	69	9
1985	67	61	6
1986 . . . . (Upto October)	67	59	8

(b) The few applications, which remained outstanding at the end of year, were due to non-receipt of necessary verification reports.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Boycott of Loan Mela in Bangalore by two bank officers unions

1417. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two bank officers' unions have decided to boycott the proposed 'Loan mela' to be held in Bangalore on November 30, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Government has no information whether any credit camp is going to be held in Bangalore on 30th November, 1986. Credit camps are organised from time to time by public sector banks at the initiative of field functionaries as a part of the overall measures taken to increase the flow of credit to weaker sections in line with targets laid down for such credit deployment—and as such no separate monitoring of individual credit camps organised by various banks is considered either feasible or necessary.

Promotion of Tourism in Kerala

1418. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to set up a team to study the potentials for development of tourism in Kerala